(a) whether the Orissa State Agro Industries Corporation has submitted any scheme for agricultural development in the State to NABARD for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for early clearance of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) . Question do not arise.

Gujarat Public Works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance

6880. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat public works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinances is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in according clearance to the said Ordinance and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The previous instructions of the president for the promulgation of the Gujarat Public Works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance, 1989 have been conveyed to the State Government on 4.9.1991.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations 1957

6881. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for amendment of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations 1957 has been forwarded by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration to the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). In 1989, the Andaman and Nicobar administration sent a proposal to the Ministry of Urban Development to amend the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations, 1957 thereby increasing the number of members of the Municipal Board, increasing the term of the Municipal Board, providing for direct elections for the Chairman of the Municipal Board, increasing the term of office of the Chairman of the Board and to lower the age of voters from 21 years to 18 years.

Necessary amendments to lower the age of voters from 21 years to 18 years have been carried out.

Pollution due to Release of Effluents by Hindustan Zinc Limited

6882. SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHI:
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the effluents released by the Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) in Visakhapatnam is causing air and water pollution;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the HZL in this regard; and